



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

United States Patent and Trademark Office

Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
-----------------	-------------	----------------------	---------------------	------------------

10/669,417

09/25/2003

Wilson Wai Sing Leung

402811

5061

23548

7590

05/27/2009

LEYDIG VOIT & MAYER, LTD

700 THIRTEENTH ST. NW

SUITE 300

WASHINGTON, DC 20005-3960

EXAMINER

CZEKAJ, DAVID J

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2621

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

05/27/2009

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/669,417

Applicant(s)

LEUNG, WILSON WAI SING

Examiner

DAVID CZEKAJ

Art Unit

2621

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 21 May 2009.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SF/ICE)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 5/21/09 has been entered.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-12 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

1. Claims 1-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kishi et al. (2003/0155479), (hereinafter referred to as "Kishi") in view of Edwards et al. (6946988), (hereinafter referred to as "Edwards").

Regarding claim 1, Kishi discloses an apparatus that relates to an automotive electronic device (Kishi: paragraph 0002). This apparatus comprises "a chassis including a front side having a bottom part" (Kishi: figure 3), "a playing

mechanism provided in the chassis" (Kishi: figure 3, wherein the playing mechanism is the cd player), and "a control panel provided on the chassis front side for operating the playing mechanism, the control panel having a bottom part hinged to that of the chassis front side such that a top part of the panel is pivotable from an upward position wherein the control panel lies flat on the chassis front side forward away from the chassis to a downward position extending therefrom for operation" (Kishi: figure 3; paragraph 0038, wherein the panel is pivoted away from the chassis to a downward position). However, this apparatus lacks the wireless link as claimed. Edwards teaches that there is a need in the prior art to provide a remote control function without providing two different interface sets (Edwards: column 1, lines 50-54). To help alleviate this apparatus, Edwards discloses "a wireless link between the control panel and playing mechanism such that the playing mechanism is operable by the control panel when the panel is detached, acting as a remote control" (Edwards: figures 1-2; column 4, lines 13-23, wherein the control panel is the remote control). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to take the apparatus disclosed by Kishi and add the link disclosed by Edwards in order to obtain an apparatus that integrates a remote device within a single interface.

Regarding claim 2, Kishi discloses "the panel has a first side adjacent the chassis front side on which a plurality of control keys are provided for operating the playing mechanism" (Kishi: figure 3).

Regarding claim 3, Kishi discloses "the panel includes a second side opposite the first side, the second side being substantially blank" (Kishi: figure 2).

Regarding claim 4, Kishi discloses "each bottom part of the chassis front and the panel has left and right corners adjacent those of the other bottom part, and the adjacent corners of each pairs are releasably hinged together" (Kishi: figures 2-4; paragraph 0025).

Regarding claim 5, Kishi discloses "a releasable catch is provided between the chassis front and control panel for holding the panel in the upward position" (Kishi: figures 4-5).

Regarding claim 6, Kishi discloses "the control panel dips at an acute angle in the downward position" (Kishi: figures 3 and 9-10).

Regarding claim 7, Kishi discloses "the panel has generally the same shape and size as the front and in the upward position covers substantially the entire chassis front side" (Kishi: figure 3).

Regarding claim 8, Edwards discloses "wherein the wireless link comprises an infrared link" (Edwards: column 3, lines 40-45).

Regarding claim 9, Kishi in view of Edwards disclose "the wireless link is provided by a pair of transmitter and receiver located at the panel and the chassis front side at positions generally aligned with each other" (Kishi: figures 3-6; Edwards: figure 4; column 3, lines 40-45).

Regarding claim 10, Kishi in view of Edwards disclose "the panel is hinged to the chassis for pivotal movement about a horizontal hinge axis and the transmitter and receiver are located adjacent the hinge" (Kishi: figures 3 and 9-10; Edwards: figure 4, column 3, lines 40-45).

Regarding claim 11, although not disclosed, it would have been obvious to locate the transmitter and receiver at central locations (Official Notice). Doing so would have been obvious in order to easily provide access to both the transmitter and receiver.

Regarding claim 12, Edwards discloses "the transmitter and receiver are located at the same corners of the control panel and chassis front side" (Edwards: figures 1-2).

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to DAVID CZEKAJ whose telephone number is (571)272-7327. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Thurs and every other Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mehrdad Dastouri can be reached on (571) 272-7418. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 2621

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Dave Czekaj/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2621